FARM NEWS

By J. A. Smith, County Agent

Control Cattle Lice

With the oncoming of colder weather, cattle are becoming infested with lice. To control lice, use 1 pound of a 25% wettable lindane powder in 100 gallons of water, or a 20% lindane emulsifiable concentrate at the rate of 1 1-4 pints per one hundred gallons of water. If you have only a few cattle to spray, you may like to use a small sprayer. In this case, use 1-2 ounce of 25% wettable powder or 1 tablespoonful of emulsifiable concentrate to 3 gallons of water.

Usually one treatment with the lindane spray will give satisfactory control. However, if lice are still present on the animal after 14 to 18 days, a repeat treatment should be given.

To treat cattle, place them in a well built shute or a small crowded pen. A sprayer that will produce pressures of 100 to 200 pounds per square inch is suitable for spraying animals. The reason for using a high pressure sprayer is that in colder weather, cattle put on an additional amount of hair. Therefore it is necessary to use high pressure spray equipment to move the insecticide down to the skin area.

Select a time to spray when it is warm and the sun is out; usually the middle of the day is most desirable. In spraying, wet them thoroughly, including the dewlap, crotch, inside the ears and the switch of the tail. These are places that many times are missed and results in a poor treatment. The amount of spray needed for one animal would depend on its size and length of its hair. Complete coverage for a mature animal may require as much as four gallons. For some others it may require no more than two quarts.

Cattle usually have a high infestation when they are seen rubbing against posts, barns or other equipment normally foundon the cattle farms.

Tobacco Export Market

The increase in tobacco abroad is offering stiffer competition to growers here. Farmers can help meet this competition by doing a better job of preparing the crop for market. At the present time, about one-third of the tobacco sold in the U. S. is now exported and of course it is important to the tobacco grower that this export market be maintained. In Southern Rhodesia, the 1954 volume of flue-cured tobacco sold was 120 million pounds, 14% more than in 1953. In 1954, Canada produced about 186 million pounds, about 94% of it flue-cured, a sizeable increase over the average Canadian production of 55 million pounds from 1935 to 1939. During the same period, the U. S. produced 68% of the world's production. In 1954, that figure dropped to 54%.

Growers are advised to grade carefully, keeping the lugs, leaf and tip separated and of course, removing the green, red, dead and burned leaves, tying the heads in uniform bundles—no larger than a half-dollar. The bundles that are large and are wet, cannot be redried properly and may cause tobacco stored in hogsheads to mould. Keeping strings and sand and other foreign material out of tobacco is another way of keeping export markets. Buyers in other countries are very particular in the grades they buy and in purchasing tobacco from this country, they expect a uniform type.

Powder Post Beetles

During the last several weeks, our attention has been called to a number of farms to examine houses for infestations of powder post beetles. There are a number of different type insects that come under the title of powder post beetles, and all of them infect timbers that are normally used in the construction of houses.

Periodic inspections should be made of all buildings to determine if these insects are present. Usually they can be determined by seeing a small pile of sawdust which has fallen on the floor or ground directly under the wood in which they are working. Other ways of detecting them is the tunnel of wood they have eaten out. This may be observed by a weakening of the structure or by using an ice pick or a screw driver to determine the soundness of the wood. Once you have determined that they are present in the home, they can be controlled by either spraying or brush coating the wood with an insecticide. Spraying is much faster. However, brush coating the wood is perhaps the most effective way as it is desirable to cause the wood to absorb as much material as possible.

There are two materials that are recommended and now on the market. DDT—use a 4% DDT in kerosene, or a 5% solution of pentachlorophenol in an oil carrier. Both DDT and pentachlorophenol are long-lasting insecticides. Pentachlorophenol in addition to killing the insects will also act as a wood preservative. One gallon of this material will treat 100 square feet of wood surface. Repeat the application until the wood is satsrated.

Other methods of control include fumigation. Materials used in this are hydrocyamic acid gas or methol-bromide gas, each of which are exteremely poisonous and should be used by a professional fumigator.

While checking for powder post beetles, it is also desirable to check for termite infestations.

Many times during the early spring and during the swarming period termites are mistaken for flying ants. If the wood in your house comes in contact with the soil, it is an ideal place for termites to gain entrance.

If the house is constructed on brickcinder blocks, they may also reach the wood area by forming earthen tunnels or run-ways along the surfaces of foundation walls, therefore reaching the wood. Termites work in areas where there is darkness, sufficient amount of moisture and low temperatures. Using a screw-driver or ice-pick, determinations can be made as to whether or not the wood material of the house is sound.

In controlling termites, pentachlorophenol is recommended, using at least one gallon of 5% material to each five cubic feet of soil.

Creosote may also be used. It is less expensive and should be used where odor or discoloration are not practices to be considered. One part of creosote may be diluted with one or two parts of fuel oil or waste crankcase oil and used at the same rate as mentioned above.

RAT CONTROL

Everyone who has stored grain and other feeds on the farm, knows the damage that can come from rat infestation. Therefore, arrangements should be made whereby grain can be stored out of reach of the rodent.

In preparing such arrangements, a study has been made to determine just what a rat can do under certain conditions. It seems that a rat can walk along horizontal bars and cables. It is possible for a rat to climb a vertical wall of concrete blocks or rough brick. He can climb a rusty vertical pipe with a 1½ to 4 inch inside diameter. He can reach 13 inches vertically, so a reaching distance of 18 inches is necessary if you plan to do some rat-proofing. A rat can jump two feet vertically from a standing position, and more than 3 feet with a short running start.

From a standing position, a rat can jump 4 feet horizontally. From a height of 15 feet he can jump 8 feet horizontally. He can enter a building by dropping 2 or 3 stories through a skylight and still live to tell the tale. A rat is a good swimmer and can enter a building through water seals in the plumbing. When trying to burrow under a wall, a rat will dig to intersect the wall face about 18 inches below the ground level. As he goes deeper along the wall, he will stop burrowing if he comes in contact with an object in the horizontal plane, such as the ledge formed by the footing.

A rat can gnaw through any material that is softer than he provided he can find a hole one-half in diameter or less can start one with his chisel-like incisor teeth. For information, to see that ratproofing is really done, yet this information will help one as he begins to study methods for ratproofing his own or other holding areas for grain.

PERSONAL

Mr. and Mrs. George C and children, Joyce Lee W., of Portsmouth were guests Friday evening of Mrs. Ed Blackwell.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert and children, of Arlington, dinner guests of Mr. and Blackwell Sunday. Mr. Lindy Hamlet, of Farmville in the same home on Sunday noon.

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PERSONALS

ow has measels.

Mrs. Joshua Prettow, of be guests of Mr. and Burke for the week-end.

Anderson, of Farmville, father, S. G. Anderson,

Mrs. Judson Bush, of day Friday in the home of ell.

. Ablitt and Miss Mattie dinner guests Friday of s. W. C. Harvey.

ne Laurie Moore, of Miss Hilda Moore, at pent Thanksgiving e here.

Moore, of Algoma, West s returned to his home g a few days with Mr. A. Babcock.

n, Bobby Dinkins, Burke students at V. P. I, spent ndaying holidays with their s.

Mrs. Doug Marshall, of pent last week with his and Mrs. S. B. Mar-

B. Morris and son, Scotthe holidays in Danville. spent Thanksgiving Day

my Vaughn Cunningham, en spent the holidays with parents, Mr. and Mrs. J.

Miss Anne Evans, Wesley Newcomb and J. D. Guill spent Sunday in Petersburg with Miss Alice Ogburn.

Alton Smith, who underwent an appendectomy Tuesday at the Virginia Baptist Hospital, is recovering nicely.

Friends here are glad to hear that Mr. Hunter G. Smith, of Fayetteville, N. C., who has been hospitalized, has returned to his home much improved.

Hal Flood has returned from a 10-day trip to Canada, Maine and Richmond. He accompanied Cameron C. Seay, of Richmond, on the northern trip.

Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Burke, Jr. and family, of Bon Air, and Mr. and Mrs. Doug Williams and family, of Brookneal spent the week-end with Mr. and Mrs. Jerry A. Burke.

Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Jobe and children, of Amherst and Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Brown and family, of Gladstone spent Thanksgiving Day with Mr. and Mrs. O. R. Turnes.

Richard C. Harvey, of Colorado Springs, Col., spent the holidays with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Harvey. He also visited in the home of W. A. Drinkard, of Concord.

C. W. Smith attended the midyear meeting of the Board of Lay Activities of the Virginia Conference which was held at the Virginian Hotel in Lynchburg last Saturday and Sunday.

Miss Faye Conner has measles.

Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Ray Gordon, of Fairfax spent the holidays with Mr. and Mrs. L. L. Stanley. Mr. and Mrs. Stanley and Mrs. Gordon spent Thanksgiving Day in Richmond with Mr. and Mrs. Mark Saurs.

The Rev. and Mrs. B. F. Robinson will leave Friday to attend an anniversary program at Onancock Baptist Church, on the Eastern Shore, where the Rev. Robinson was formerly pastor.

A/1C William E. Johnston and Mrs. Johnston spent the Thanksgiving holidays with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Johnston and Mr. and Mrs. M. E. Hailey, of Clarkton. They returned to New Jersey Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Harvey and daughter, Patricia, of Falls Church, attended the V. P. I. - V. M. I. football game in Roanoke last Thursday. Mr. Harvey and Patricia visited his parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Harvey over the holidays.

Mrs. F. F. Carr attended the executive board meeting of the Virginia Federation of Home Demonstration Clubs in Richmond Monday. On Tuesday, Mrs. Carr was a member of the panel of the Virginia Food Council at their annual meeting at the Jefferson Hotel.

Mr. and Mrs. Joe L. Eversole, of Hazard, Kentucky, were recent guests of Mr. and Mrs. S. B. Marshall. The Eversoles spent the holidays with their son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Caldwell Eversole, of Danville, Va.

Mr. and Mrs. Virgil Robertson and sons, of Norfolk, spent Thanksgiving in the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. O. Robertson. Also Mr. and Mrs. Roger Brassard, Terry and Johnny Robertson spent Sunday in this home.

Mrs. C. W. Potts, of Orange, spent last week with her aunt, Mrs. Lottie Bledsot. Other guests in this home for the holidays were Mrs. Bledsoe's sister, Mrs. T. C. Roberts and Mr. and Mrs. Warren Roberts, of Shipman.

Mrs. Archer W. Carr, of Nathalie; Mr. and Mrs. J. K. Abernathy, of Richmond and Fred Carr, of V. P. I. spent the holidays with Mr. and Mrs. F. F. Carr. Mr. and Mrs. Carr, Fred and Wesley Carr and Mr. and Mrs. Abernathy motored to Roanoke last Thursday and attended the V. P. I. - V. M. I. football game.

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NEWS from HOLLYWOOD

"The Lone Ranger," which first drew public attention as a Detroit radio program in 1932 and has become the oldest continuous half-hour show on the air, having missed but two programs in its long life—the day President Franklin D. Roosevelt died and on V-J Day—has been made into a film by Warners. The picture has been called one with a "built-in" audience.

Broadway stage actor Leslie Nielsen, who has made two pictures in Hollywood, has yet to be seen on the screen. Neither of the pictures has been released. His next will be with Glenn Ford, titled, "The Last Notch." He also worked with Ford in "Farful Decision."

Eddie Fisher will head an all-star cast on CBS televisions "Ford Star Jubilee" in color, Saturday, December 17. The special color program, which will originate "live" from Television City in Hollywood, will present in song, dance and drama the story of American music, from its birth to its present international popularity, and will be produced by Ken Murray.

Dissatisfaction with the size of her part is given as the reason Gloria Vanderbilt withdrew from the co-starring role in Frank Sinatra's first Western, 'Johnny Concho."

If its pictures do not do so well, Twentieth - Century - Fox has another source of income—it has seven producing oil wells on its back lot and the studio's daily cut on the oil produced is over $1,000. Not bad.

ABOUT YOUR HOME

By Frances Dell

Wash day need not be such a chore in your home. Lots of hot water, a good washing machine, and the right laundry accessories should all up to satisfactory laundering results. They should, but too many times they fail. There is only one thing that can prevent this failure —common-sense.

For example—it makes sense to sort laundry into three piles—white, colored, and hand-washable. White wash responds best to very hot water. Fast-colored cottons, linens and nylons do better if washed in 110-degree water and thus do better if washed separately.

Before washing any new colored garment, always check the manufacturer's tag for washing instructions. You may find that the garment should not be washed in the machine but by hand.

Be sure to empty all the pockets and treat stains before washing. A clipping torn from a magazine with colored illustrations can work havoc with your wash. Remember that hot water and soapsuds will set untreated stains.

The best way to wash white cottons and linens effectively by hand is to use water as hot as your hands will stand. This will be approximately 120-degrees. Ten degrees less is just right for fast-colored cottons, linens and nylons.

Rayons demand lukewarm water —about 100 degrees. Silks and woolens wash best in 95 to 100-degree water. When using a bleach of any kind, make sure it is safe for the fabric. Read the directions carefully. Nylon and other man-made fabrics require special bleaches and, sometimes, when the water is hard, a water-softener is necessary.

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